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COMOR file
~~SATellite~~

26 March 1964

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman, United States Intelligence Board
SUBJECT: KH-4 Satellite Schedule for April

1. A review of recent satellite photo reconnaissance shows that both packages of a very good KH-4 (1004-J) were recovered on 18 and 21 February, respectively.

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2. There is a requirement for satellite photographic search coverage of the Sino-Soviet Bloc at the rate of about once per month. KH-4 Mission 1003-J was scheduled and launched on 24 March to meet the requirement for March but failed to orbit.

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3. The standby KH-4 vehicle, 9064-M (a single package) can be launched [] after notice. We are advised that the next J may be available on or about []

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4. COMOR has considered whether in the light of the requirement and these events and circumstances, a request should be made to proceed with launching 9064 and not to wait [] for a J mission.

5. Recommendation*

a. That the NRO be requested to launch a KH-4 (9064) as soon as feasible. This CORONA launching would be against normal CORONA search requirements.

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b. That the NRO be prepared to launch a KH-4 [] after a above assuming it is successful.

[]
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NRO review(s) completed.

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If a is not successful, NRO should launch another
KH-4 as soon as possible.

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* The CIA and State Department believe that, in view of the excellent coverage achieved by 1004-J (estimated [] per cent of the Soviet Union and [] per cent of China with useable photography) []

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[] there is not now an overriding intelligence need to launch the 9064 standby early in April. They feel that it would be best to preserve 9064 as a standby and they recommend that instead a J mission should be launched as scheduled in April.

[]
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James Q. Reber
Chairman
Committee on Overhead Reconnaissance

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